



STATE OF LOUISIANA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE CIVIL SERVICE
LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS
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April 14, 2003

Don Burkett, District Attorney
11th Judicial District
P. O. Box 1557
Many, LA 71449

Re: Ethics Board Docket No. 2003-229

Dear Mr. Burkett:

The Louisiana Board of Ethics, at its April 10, 2003 meeting, considered your request for an advisory opinion as to whether Jimmy Solar may continue to serve as the Assistant District Chief of the Sabine Parish Fire District No.1, given his recent appointment to the district's board of commissioners by the Sabine Parish Police Jury. As the Assistant District Chief, Mr. Solar is paid \$200 a month to offset personal expenses he incurs while carrying out his volunteer duties. Also, Mr. Solar is paid \$100 a month to monitor the district's and the Many Fire District's radio frequencies 24-hours a day.

The Board concluded, and instructed me to inform you, that the Code of Governmental Ethics prohibits Mr. Solar from continuing to receive compensation as the Assistant District Chief, if he continues to serve on the district's board of commissioners. Section 1113B of the Code prohibits an appointed member of a board or commission from entering into or being in any way interested in a transaction that is under the supervision or jurisdiction of his agency. Section 1123(1) of the Code permits a public servant to participate in the affairs of a bona fide organized public volunteer fire department when no compensation. Therefore, Mr. Solar is prohibited from continuing to serve as the Assistant District Chief while he receives compensation from the district. However, if Mr. Solar did not receive any compensation from the Sabine Parish Fire District No. 1, he could continue to serve on the district's board of commissioners.

The Board issues no opinion as to laws other than the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics. If you have any questions, please contact me at 225/763-8777 or 1-800-842-6630.

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

Kathleen M. Allen
For the Board

EB:KMA

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